

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

***Arizona - Mexico International Border Security Emergency ***

WHEREAS, according to the Pew Hispanic Center, the estimated number of unauthorized immigrants entering the United States each year has risen from 140,000 in the 1980s to over 700,000 in 2004; and

WHEREAS, other estimates of the number of illegal border crossings run as high as 3,000,000 per year; and

WHEREAS, the annual number of unauthorized immigrants entering the United States now far exceeds the annual number of authorized immigrants who do so; and

WHEREAS, a greater percentage of unauthorized immigrants are entering the United States through Arizona than ever before; and

WHEREAS, with the increase in unauthorized immigrants coming to Arizona, there has been a corresponding increase in the threat to public health and safety from gangs, coyotes and others engaged in dangerous criminal activities along the Arizona – Mexico International border; and

WHEREAS, the flood of unauthorized immigration has had its most pronounced effect in Arizona's border counties of Cochise, Pima, Santa Cruz and Yuma, where hundreds of immigrants have died, violent criminal activity has increased, and repeated trespasses to real property have damaged vegetation, wildlife and livestock; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has failed in its responsibility to secure the United States and Mexico border, thereby necessitating immediate action by the state of Arizona to aid its border counties; and

WHEREAS, state and local law enforcement officials from Arizona's border counties have requested additional funding on an emergency basis to address these issues; and

WHEREAS, the Governor is authorized by the Legislature pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 26-303(D) and 35-192 to declare an emergency and expend funds up to \$200,000 per occurrence;

NOW, THEREFORE I, Janet Napolitano, Governor of the State of Arizona, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of the State, do hereby:

- a. Determine that the massive increase in unauthorized border crossings and the related increase in deaths, crime and property damage justifies a declaration of a State of Emergency, pursuant to A.R.S. § 26-303(D); and

- b. Declare that a State of Emergency exists in Cochise, Pima, Santa Cruz and Yuma Counties effective immediately, and continuing until further notice, due to the aforementioned conditions; and
- c. Direct that the sum of \$200,000 from the general fund be made available to the Director of the Arizona Division of Emergency Management to be expended in accordance with A.R.S. § 35-192, A.A.C. R8-2-301 to 321, and Executive Order 79-4; and
- d. Direct that the State of Arizona Emergency Response and Recovery Plan be used to direct and control state and other assets associated with this emergency, and authorize the Director of the Arizona Division of Emergency Management to coordinate state assets as needed.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

Janet Napolitano

GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this 15th day of August in the Year Two Thousand Five and of the independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Thirtieth

ATTEST:

Janice K. Brewer
SECRETARY OF STATE